



STATE OF IOWA

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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
CHARLES M. PALMER, DIRECTOR

INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO. 1020

DATE: June 20, 2011

TO: Iowa Medicaid Pediatricians

FROM: Iowa Department of Human Services, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

RE: Reminder: Upcoming Implementation for
Physician Face to Face Encounter for Home Health Care

EFFECTIVE: July 1, 2011

Informational Letter 983 confirmed that Medicare certified home health agencies supporting Iowa Medicaid members with home health care must comply with the physician requirement for face to face encounter and Informational Letter 1011 extended the implementation of the physician requirement until July 1, 2011. This Informational Letter serves as a special reminder to our Iowa Medicaid pediatricians that the physician face to face encounter requirement for the Iowa Medicaid Home Health Services program and the Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) Private Duty Nursing and Personal Cares program will be implemented Friday, July 1, 2011.

As pediatricians, you were generally not subject to this provision under the Medicare program. During the last months, the Iowa home health associations and partners have committed to contacting pediatricians and your offices in the effort to inform and support you as this implementation date draws near. If you have not been in communication with an Iowa home health association in your vicinity, please contact the Iowa Alliance for Home Care at 515-282-3965 or the Alliance for Independent Health Services At Home at 515-868-5747. Either association will be most willing to assist.

In addition, the following IME Frequently Asked Questions website answers questions that the IME has received from Iowa Medicaid agencies about the Affordable Care Act requirement for the physician face to face encounter. These FAQ's are posted at:

<http://www.ime.state.ia.us/docs/4-27-11%20FAQ%20Home%20Health%20Hospice%20-%20PhysicianF2F%20Requirement.docx>.

Questions and answers regarding this physician requirement are also posted on several CMS websites as follows:

<http://www.cms.gov/center/hha.asp>
<http://www.cms.gov/center/hospice.asp>
<http://cms.gov/center/physician.asp>

Please alert any professionals in your offices or associations who may benefit from the information in this Informational Letter.

If you have any additional questions, please contact the IME Provider Services Unit at 1-800-338-7909, locally at 515- 256-4609, or by e-mail at imeproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us.